



**Public Health**  
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

## **Announcing LPHA March 2024 Virtual Presentation Series: Public Health Projects, Partnerships, and Preparation**

This March, hear from public health colleagues from across the state about the different innovative projects and partnerships that are being carried out, and prepare for future challenges by boosting your skills in the complex world of dealing with the media and identifying and fostering the core characteristics of resilient care-giving professionals. Along the way, learn about resources and opportunities for collaboration and engagement!

All sessions are offered via Zoom and will be recorded. Click the session title to register for each session you wish to attend, and Zoom will send you the meeting information for that session. These sessions are open to all in local public health, not just LPHA members, so please forward on to any staff that these could be relevant for. Questions? Contact Alicia Rodriguez, [arodriguez@mncounties.org](mailto:arodriguez@mncounties.org).

### **SURVIVAL GUIDE FOR TALKING TO THE MEDIA: LOCAL PUBLIC HEALTH EDITION**

*Presented by: Allison Thrash, Communications Manager and Amy Olson, Communications Supervisor, Hennepin County Public Health*  
Friday, March 1, 10:00am – 11:00am

Do you know what makes a good spokesperson? Are you prepared to speak to the media? Media requests can be stressful! Public health leaders need media training because people in our communities depend on us to share information to help them stay healthy. This “survival guide” session, led by two experienced public information officers, includes: Brief presentation, demonstration of “just in time” interview preparation, voluntary practice interviews (using common public health scenarios), tip sheet, Q&A.

### **PILOTING A REGIONAL MODEL FOR POPULATION HEALTH DATA COLLECTION AND ANALYSIS IN RURAL MINNESOTA**

*Presented by Tina Jordahl, Program Manager, Jenna Slack, Epidemiologist, Jenny Passer, Epidemiologist, Olmsted County Public Health Services*  
Monday, March 4. 10:00am-11:00am

Turning data into information is key for public health departments, but capacity and skills can limit smaller jurisdictions' ability to access and summarize data. Olmsted County Public Health Services partnered with 10 neighboring counties to assess the feasibility of how a larger health department could support other jurisdictions with data, epidemiology, and assessment and planning efforts.

### **ACEs IN ACTION: COMMUNICATING WITH CHILDREN OF INCARCERATED PARENTS**

*Presented by John Eshun, Mental Well-Being Planner, MN Department of Health*  
Wednesday, March 6, 2:00pm – 3:00pm

Parental incarceration is the second most reported adverse childhood experience (ACE) of children in Minnesota, second only behind having a parent with a mental illness. Learn how a new MN model Jail Learning Community is being developed to establish effective communication, partnerships, and model jail practices that can reduce some of the traumatic experiences for children and families in your community.

### **MORE THAN FREE PIZZA: FOSTERING RESILIENCE IN LOCAL PUBLIC HEALTH**

*Presented by Dr. Tom Allen, PhD, LP*  
Thursday, March 7, 2:00pm – 3:00pm

Free pizza not cutting it?

Join us in this interactive session as we identify internal characteristics that contribute to helping professional resilience. Dr. Allen will share research backed findings about internal characteristics of resilience and together we will explore them in relation to local public health (Cronin, Allen, Hou; Walker, 2023; Journal of Prevention and Health Promotion). Through individual reflection and structured small group conversations attendees may leave with a deeper understanding of their own path towards fostering and maintaining resilience over time. Attendees are asked to come prepared to participate and engage with one another.

Tom Allen, PhD, LP, (he, him, his) is a licensed psychologist in private practice in Mankato, MN. He is the Chair of the Rural and Greater Minnesota Division for the Minnesota Psychological Association (MPA) and served two years with the Blue Earth County Mental Health Task Force. Dr. Allen's research and speaking engagements focus on topics of rural practice and resilience.

\* This session is funded by the CDC Workforce Development Grant administered by MDH \*

### **MASSAGE ESTABLISHMENT REGULATION (A COLLABORATIVE, PREVENTATIVE AND VICTIM CENTERED APPROACH TO COMBAT HUMAN TRAFFICKING)**

*Presented by Sagar Chowdhury, Associate Director of Public Health, Olmsted County; Matt O'Brian, Health Director, City of St Cloud; Andrea White, Southeast MN Regional Navigator, Safe Harbor*

Friday, March 8, 3:00pm – 4:00pm

There are 11,000 illicit massage businesses in the US that account for a 4.3 billion dollar industry. MN is 1 of 3 states with no statewide oversight of therapist and the industry. This has led to the massage industry being the leading business related industry for human trafficking. With locals left to regulate the industry, it has led to very inconsistent results. Learn about a new approach taken by the City of St. Cloud, Olmsted County, and Safe Harbor to approach the issue.

### **PERINATAL HYPERTENSIVE DISORDERS OF PREGNANCY; WHAT ONE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT AND HOSPITAL SYSTEM ARE DOING TO ADDRESS THE CRISIS**

*Presented by Emily Lian, Public Health Nurse Supervisor, Lisa Konicek, Program Coordinator, Juliana Olson, Public Health Nurse Home Visitor, St. Louis County Public Health and Human Services; Mallory Cummings, Maternal Child Health Project Manager, St. Luke's Healthcare System*

Tuesday, March 12, 2:00pm – 3:00pm

Perinatal hypertensive disorders (PHD) in pregnancy have been increasing in St. Louis County, around the state and around the country. Impacts can be devastating on both birthing people and infants. Data shows that Black and indigenous individuals are disproportionately impacted by PHD. Learn how one local public health department joined forces with a local hospital system to try to tackle this through a health equity lens. With support from MDH, the Heart-to-Heart program was created.

### **PUBLIC HEALTH, DRINKING WATER, AND ARSENIC; OH MY! AN OPPORTUNITY FOR EXPANDING PARTNERSHIPS AND OUTREACH TO ENGAGE PRIVATE WELL OWNERS**

*Presented by Anne Nelson, Partner Engagement and Communications Specialist, MN Department of Health, and Jessica Peterson, Supervisor, Horizon Public Health*

Wednesday, March 13, 10:00am – 11:00am

Horizon Public Health was awarded a pilot grant from the Minnesota Department of Health in 2021 to provide financial assistance for water testing and water treatment for private well owners with high arsenic levels in their drinking water. We'll discuss the process of receiving the grant, lessons learned about communication, outreach, and working with private well owners, new partnerships they built, and future plans for this work.